

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
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E-VOTING, PAGE 3



Maryland Welcomes Back Alumni for Homecoming Festival

Late this week, the Alumni Association welcomes back the class of 1950 for a weekend of reunion festivities. Among the alums from this class are prominent area businessmen whose names can be seen on buildings across campus: Robert Van Munching, on the business school; Robert H. Smith and A. James Clark, namesakes of the business and engineering schools; and Samuel Riggs IV, the name to appear on the soon-to-be-constructed alumni center.

More than 1,000 alums are expected to return to campus for the homecoming activities. In addition to Alumni College and class reunions, alums can look forward to Saturday morning's Homecoming Festival with live music, interactive games for the entire family, face painters, caricaturists, fortune telling and karaoke. Testudo, the Maryland Cheerleaders and the Maryland Marching Band will also stop by to join the fun. The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the picnic area outside Tyser Tower. The football game kicks off at 1 p.m. as the Terps take on the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest at Byrd Stadium. *Go Terps!*



Convocation 2000



University President C. D. Mote, Jr. presented the 2000 President's Medal Award to William L. "Bud" Thomas, Jr., vice president for Student Affairs, on Oct. 10 during the annual Faculty/Staff Convocation. The President's Medal honors members of the university community who have made extraordinary contributions to the intellectual, social and cultural life of the institution. Thomas was recognized for his commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of students and to creating an atmosphere of achievement for his colleagues, propelling the university to national recognition. Also honored at the convocation were Distinguished Scholar-Teachers, as well as recipients of the Kirwan Prizes—including two Undergraduate Education Awards and one Faculty Research and Scholarship Prize—and the President's Distinguished Service Awards.

The S-Files:

Virologist Anne Simon Probes Secrets of Aliens and Crinkly Turnips

Virologist and biochemist Anne Simon has perfectly logical explanations for some of the strangest phenomena.

Brain-sucking worms. Fruit flies with legs growing out of their mouths. A virus that lives in black oil that can enter a human cell and eventually turn into a lizard creature. Turnip crinkle virus.

Actually, the latter subject is Simon's real-world specialty, for which she has received National Science Foundation funding for the past 12 years and which underpins her achievements as a teacher and scientist. The other, odder subjects are the stuff of her work as scientific advisor to the hugely popular television series, "The X-Files."

Her expertise and her connection with X-Files creator Chris Carter—Carter's wife, Dori, is Simon's mother's best friend—made her the natural go-to scientist when Carter needed to smooth out the rough edges of plots that incorporated viruses, genetics and microbiology, not to mention telomeres, cloning,

the Hayflick limit and endosymbionts.

Not exactly the usual prime-time television fodder, but then, neither is "The X-Files," with its ambitious scientific and dramatic plotting. Consider, for example, the episode that first led Carter to Simon, a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, in 1993.

For that show, the first season's finale, Carter needed to know how the government could secretly test alien DNA on humans, and how a scientist would analyze for foreign bacteria or organisms. Simon told him the specimen would be cultured in an Erlenmeyer flask and checked with an electron microscope. Carter dubbed the episode "The Erlenmeyer Flask" and named one of the scientists (alas, mysteriously killed along with her family) Anne Carpenter (Simon's husband's surname is Carpenter).

Carter has conferred regularly with Simon since, though he hasn't called her yet this year. "He hasn't needed me," she says, emphasizing that she helps

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Sadat Chair Shibley Telhami Named to Board of U.S. Institute of Peace

The bloodshed and apparent collapse of the Middle East peace agreements point once again to the need to change a "culture of conflict into a culture of peace," says Shibley Telhami, who holds the Anwar Sadat Chair for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland.

Soon, Telhami may be in an official position to advance that idea. He has been nominated by President Bill Clinton to serve on the board of directors of the U.S. Institute of Peace—a job that requires confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

The Institute is the nation's peace academy, sponsoring academic research and projects designed to enhance the arsenal of peacemakers. As a member of the board, he will help decide what research gets funded and shape the direction of the Institute.

"The reason they are appointing me is because of my research on international conflict resolution," says Telhami. "In my career, I've

worked to help translate research into public policy. There are very few bodies in the world like the Institute, so it plays an important role in this."

He has written extensively on international peace negotiations and ethnic conflicts, and serves on the American delegation of the Trilateral American/Israeli/Palestinian Anti-Incitement Committee mandated by the Wye River Agreement.

One idea he would like to bring to the forefront is the need for person-to-person peacemaking. "We know how to negotiate agreements, but there has been little research on effective ways to convert a psychology of war to a psychology of peace." The need for it is evident in the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and the Balkans, he says, "but you can't impose it from the top. You can, however, help nurture it."

Telhami says the Senate may act within the next couple of weeks. If confirmed, he will be appointed to a four-year term.

dateline maryland

Your Guide to University Events
October 17-27

ongoing

Weekends through Oct. 22: The Maryland Renaissance Festival. (See details in **For Your Interest**, page 4.)

october 17

12:30-2 p.m., Workshop: "New Left Political Thought" with Kevin Mattson of Rutgers University. Sponsored by the Committee on Philosophy, Politics and Public Policy (CP4). 1102 Francis Scott Key Hall. Contact Steven Maloney at smaloney@gvpt.umd.edu for a copy of the paper, which will not be read during the workshop. An abstract can be found at: www.puaf.umd.edu/calendar/CP4SeriesFall2000.html

6-9 p.m., Workshop: "Basic Computing Technologies at MD." 3330 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For more information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

october 18

6-9 p.m., Workshop: "Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint." 4404 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For more information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

7 p.m., Performance: "A Capella at the Chapel." The sixth annual singfest is part of Homecoming Week. Student groups The Generics, The Treblemakers, Faux Paz, PandemoniUM and Kol Sasson will be featured. Memorial Chapel. For more information, call 4-9893.

7-10 p.m., Performance: "Gospel Showcase," featuring the sounds of Great Change, The University of Maryland Gospel Choir, Lillian Rollins, Joy Riley and Monique Steele. Comedy by Coy LaSone and liturgical dance by Rochelle Robinson and Ronina Lyons. Sponsored by the Black Alumni Club and the Alumni Association. Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. For more information, call 301-403-2728 ext. 11 or e-mail lb166@umail.umd.edu.

october 19

1-5 p.m., Event: "National Conference on Domestic Violence

and Sexual Assault." Speakers include Chief Judge Norma Holloway Johnson and DC Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton. Auditorium, Howard University Hospital Towers. Also Oct. 20, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

4:30-7:30 p.m., Workshop: "Introduction to Adobe Photoshop." 4404 Computer & Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

8 p.m., Performance: "Electra." Tawes Theatre. Visit the Dept. of Theatre Web site: www.umd.edu/thet/plays. For ticket information, call 5-7847. Play will also be performed Oct. 20-21.*

8-9 p.m., Lecture: "Water, Earth and Society: the Mono Lake Story" with Paul Tomascak, sponsored by the Geology Dept. 1140 Plant Sciences. For more information, call 5-4365 or see www.geol.umd.edu/pages/EventsNews/public.htm.

october 20

6 p.m., Reception, 7 p.m. Dinner, and 8 p.m., Panel Discussion: "Ethics in the Presidency." With Pulitzer Prize winner Charles Bartlett and Kathryn Whitmire, first female mayor of Houston. Sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Academy of Leadership. Inn & Conference Ctr., Founder's Room. Contact Stephanie Tadlock, 301-403-2728 x14, or stadlock@accmail.umd.edu.

october 21

8 p.m., Performance: "Flamenco Al Andalus," dance with Hispanic Arabian music. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW, The George Washington Univ. 301-808-6900 or www.ticketmaster.com.

october 22

2 p.m., Pre-concert discussion: "Copland and The Tender Land" with speaker Christopher Patton.

3 p.m., Concert: "Copland Festival Finale." Inn & Conference Center (University Blvd. at Adelphi Rd.). For more information, call 5-7847. (See details of both Copland Festival events in **For Your Interest**, page 4).

october 23

3 p.m., Lecture: "Latina Voices." Roberta Fernandez, author of *Intaglio: A Novel in Six Stories* and other works. Main Bldg., Trinity College. For information, contact telekib@trinitydc.edu or call 202-884-9242.

4 p.m., Colloquium: "Linking Field Experiments and Computational Modelling: Toward More Effective Use of Empirical Insights in Theory Construction." Entomology Colloquium presents Oswald Schmitz, Yale Univ. 1140 Plant Sciences. Contact 5-3938 or db40@umail.umd.edu.

6-9 p.m., Workshop: "Introduction to Unix." 4404 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For more information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

october 24

6-9 p.m., Workshop: "Introduction to HTML." Topics covered include formatting text, creating lists, links and anchors, uploading pages and adding inline images. 4404 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For more information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

october 25

12-1 p.m., Brown bag lecture and discussion: "CIVICUS and Living and Learning Programs." Dr. Sue Briggs, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. For more information, 4-7675 or vb14@umail.umd.edu.

12:30-2 p.m., Lecture: "Global Governance of International Rivers: Formal and Informal Regimes." The Harrison Speaker Series presents Dr. Ken Conca, Department of Government and Politics. CIDCM Conference Room, 0139 Tydings Hall. For more information, 5-7490 or kcousins@gvpt.umd.edu.

6-9 p.m., Workshop: "Intermediate Adobe Photoshop." Learn to use paths and layers for graphic manipulation; filters with text; macros. 4404 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online

McKeldin Library Extends Technology Advancement Program

This semester, McKeldin Library is continuing the C Pen checkout program it instituted at the end of last semester. Currently, three C Pen 200 digital highlighters are available for checkout at the 2nd floor Reserves Desk. This new technology is a useful tool that can aid faculty, academic staff and students. C Pen users can electronically capture text that they might otherwise have highlighted, outlined, photocopied, clipped, or simply read and forgotten.

The C Pen is a pocket-size handheld scanner about the size and shape of a standard ink highlighter. By simply moving the C Pen over printed text, as if highlighting, scanned images are instantly converted into computer-readable text. The C Pen stores up to 100 pages of text across a number of files. These files can be wirelessly transferred to a Windows PC or handheld devices such as the Palm.

REACTION TO THE C PEN PROGRAM

Last semester, more than 150 people participated in the checkout program during the last three weeks of classes. The results of the market research survey they completed indicated that most participants were interested in the concept of the C Pen but felt that the library instructions were difficult to follow. Learning to use the C Pen is simple, but as a new technology is not always that intuitive. Therefore, the instructions have been greatly improved and are now available in full color with numerous depictions.

CHECKING OUT THE C PEN 200 ON CAMPUS

McKeldin Library is making three C Pen 200s available for checkout to students, faculty, and staff as part of a market research study for No Study Time LLC. The devices can be checked out with a valid university I.D. at the 2nd floor Reserves Desk for up to two hours with the requirement that a market research survey be completed.



The new C Pen captures text in digital format.

at www.umd.edu/PT. Contact: 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

october 26

4:30-6 p.m., Workshop: "Navigating Web CT." 4404 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For more information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

4:30-7:30 p.m., Workshop: "Introduction to Microsoft Excel." 3330 Computer and Space Sciences. Register online at www.umd.edu/PT. For information, 5-2938 or cwpost@umd.edu.

8 p.m., Concert: "Maryland's Concert Band." Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. For more information, call 5-7847.

october 27

8 p.m., Concert: "Academy of Ancient Music with Andrew Manze, Conductor." Performance on period instruments to commemorate the 250th anniversary of J. S. Bach's death. Works by Bach and Handel. The Inn & Conference Center (University Blvd. at Adelphi Rd.). For more information, see www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu or call 5-7847.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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calendar guide:

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405-. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

DebateWatch 2000: Students Turn Out, Tune In and Speak Up

Students, faculty and community members are invited to participate in the third and final nationally televised presidential debate at two DebateWatch events scheduled for 9 p.m. tonight, Tuesday, Oct. 17.

DebateWatch 2000 is a non-partisan event sponsored by the Commission on Presidential Debates and is designed to bring citizens together to watch the televised debate, talk about what they learned in focus groups, and report such conclusions to the Commission for inclusion in a national press release.

The James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership will host one of the DebateWatch sessions, drawing participation from College Park Scholars Public Leadership program, Residential Life and the Student Government Association. The university's Department of Communications invites staff,

students, faculty and local community members to a town hall meeting that will coincide with the coincides with the town hall-style debate at Washington University in St. Louis.

Nearly 200 students and several faculty members—most of them from the Department of Communication—took part in DebateWatch 2000 at the University of Maryland on Tuesday, October 3.

An energized audience in Francis Scott Key 0106 watched as presidential candidates George W. Bush and Al Gore met in the first of three presidential debates.

"We were most gratified to see a large segment of the undergraduate population in the room so energized and engaged in the political process," said Professor Shawn J. Parry-Giles, who organized the event.

Facilitators report research from the focus groups to De-

bateWatch national headquarters at the University of Kansas. The database is used for political communication research, including dissertations at the University of Maryland.

Five television stations—Fox Channel 5, NBC Channel 4, Baltimore's Channel 2, CBS Channel 9, and cable Channel 8—taped the DebateWatch proceedings and interviewed students. The resulting coverage appeared on the 11:00 p.m. news the night of the debate and in news programming the next day.

The DebateWatch faculty participants included Parry-Giles, James F. Klumpp, Linda Aldoor, and Andrew D. Wolvin. Many graduate students in the department participated as facilitators. Cassandra Robinson of University Relations and David Johnson of Communications worked with the faculty and the media.

Workshop Examines Feasibility of E-voting

If advocates are correct, the Internet may claim yet another conquest and become the venue of choice for official public elections. A handful of experiments have already been conducted, and one Arizona election official describes E-voting as the "inevitable...way of the future." Advocates argue that electronic elections would re-energize the political system, encouraging voter participation—especially among the young—and would help create a more participatory style of democracy. But critics say the technology simply is not ready and question the social benefits.

To evaluate both the feasibility and desirability of E-voting, the Internet Policy Institute and the University of Maryland put together a workshop last week with technological experts, political scientists and election officials. The National Science Foundation funded it at the request of the White House.

University of Maryland President C.D. Mote Jr. chaired the workshop and chairs a steering committee that will now develop a specific research agenda. UM computer scientist Raymond Miller and political scientist Paul Herrnson, who heads the University's Center for American Politics and Citizenship, also sit on the committee.

"The ideas are intriguing, but we have some hard issues to face if electronic voting is to be more than a novelty," says Mote. "We must answer the basic technological question of whether a system can be devised that meets the tough security standards demanded by our election laws, and we must look very carefully at the social implications as well."

Next month voters in four California counties and one precinct in Arizona will have the opportunity to submit a sample ballot via the Internet as part of a technical test. Other states have conducted similar experiments and private organizations have used on-line voting as well.

"The experience so far with E-voting has been mixed," says Richard Schum, workshop organizer for the Internet Policy Institute. "There are still significant technological issues to overcome in order to protect the sanctity of the vote." Companies providing the technology say they have built in security to protect against vote tampering and to maintain privacy.

While most technical experts and elections officials at the workshop saw promise in using the technology to automate voting sites, they were skeptical about its use for remote voting—from a home PC, for example.

Vexing technological issues remain, including ways to conduct recounts that meet the strict requirements of current election laws, says Schum. He also raises a purely human security issue: "If people cast a ballot from home or the office how do you protect against coercion? In the end, I believe that for the foreseeable future votes will still have to be cast at central polling sites."

Advocates argue that working out the technological bugs will pay handsome social dividends. While voter turnout continues to decline, they point to polls indicating that over 75 percent of young Americans and over 50 percent of older Americans would embrace online voting and be more likely to vote.

Paul Herrnson doubts it. He points to the numerous reforms and technological changes during the 20th century designed to make voting more convenient. Yet voter turnout has declined not increased.

"The effects of mail balloting, early voting, and other innovations are largely contingent on the efforts of candidates, parties, and other groups to prod voters to use them," he explains. "The day when a voter can sit at home and vote in a general election using a PC is probably years away, and those exercising this option probably would have voted anyway."

Anne Simon

continued from page 1

with scripts, but doesn't actually write them. "Chris is the X-Files guru," she says. "I'm just an old friend, happy to help."

Simon, recruited from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, to join the Maryland faculty this year, regularly gives talks around the country on her "X-Files" role. "Which is fun," she says. "It's nice to be able to give a light-hearted science lecture."

Most of her time, however, is spent with turnip crinkle virus. "It's one of the best systems for looking at how viruses replicate. We're using our virus as a model to study how viruses replicate and cause disease," she says.

"The university is poised to make a significant impact on the life sciences, due to the leadership at the university and from the governor. This is a marvelous department that is poised to get even better. There is a wonderful core of virologists here—this could easily be the top virology center in the United States."

Simon serves on the National Institutes of Health's study section for virology, has served on NIH grant panels and is an editor for the journal *Virology*. In 1996, she received the Distinguished Teaching Award at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, for her Introduction to Biology course, which she also teaches here, and where she will give the "X-Files" lecture on the last day of class.

Like many academics, Simon has found popular culture a good medium for making the



Virologist Anne Simon advises X-Files creator Chris Carter on how to test alien DNA on humans, bringing scientific savvy to episodes such as "The Erlenmeyer Flask." Simon enjoys such opportunities to make her esoteric work more accessible.

esoteric accessible. "That's why I wrote my book," she says, referring to "The Real Science Behind the X-Files: Microbes, Meteorites, and Mutants," published a year ago and scheduled to come out in paperback next year.

The book chronicles the plots of "X-Files" episodes Simon helped with, including "Gethsemane," "The Erlenmeyer Flask," "The Post-Modern Prometheus" and "Home," as well as the movie, "The X-Files." It includes parts of the scripts as well as backstories on how the ideas were developed. Customer reviews on Amazon.com are uniformly laudatory, as were newspaper and journal articles. "Even

Nature reviewed it," Simon says. "A two-page review, very favorable."

A seven-city book tour to promote the book led to many interviews, both in-person and online. She is good-natured about answering the same questions over and over, and promises to sign copies of the book if purchasers drop by her lab in the microbiology building.

Indeed, she hopes to sell many more copies, though not for commercial reasons. "I won't see another penny. The advance was big," she says. "I wrote it so people would have fun with science. So people who were scared of science could learn about it."

Request for Input on Faculty Contract Proposal

The Senate Faculty Affairs Committee requests input from faculty members concerning a proposal to redefine the length of the academic year to nine months for contract purposes.

Details of this proposal can be found at www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/provost/FacultyContract/.

The Faculty Affairs Committee will be collecting input from faculty members through Friday, October 20, 2000. Comments may be sent via e-mail to senate-facultyaffs-chair@umail.umd.edu or by campus mail care of the Senate Office, 1100 Marie Mount Hall, College Park, MD 20742.

For Your Interest

Copland Festival Finale

Don't miss the final performance this weekend of the Maryland Chamber Orchestra's Aaron Copland Festival. A pre-concert discussion, "Copland and The Tender Land" with speaker Christopher Patton, will precede the performance, which ends the month-long festival and conference "Aaron Copland and American Identity." Christopher Kendall conducts, and closing remarks will be delivered by Susan Farr, executive director of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

The discussion begins at 2 p.m. and the concert at 3 p.m. on Sun., Oct. 22 at The Inn & Conference Center (University Blvd. at Adelphi Rd.). For information and complete repertoire, see www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu/Copland or call 5-7847.

Yu-Dee Chang Address

Yu-Dee Chang, a well-known entrepreneur in the Washington, DC area, will speak at this month's Investors Group Meeting. Chang heads Chesapeake Investment Services, Inc., hosts a popular radio business program and publishes a widely-read financial newsletter. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend.

Chang, who also provides educational services to local investors through his popular investment seminars, workshops and classes, is the editor of the "Stocktrac" investment newsletter on short-term swing trading on the stock market. He is the host of the radio program "Money Talk," an award-winning weekly financial call-in show broadcast live every Friday on AM 570. Chang has a master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland. His financial

credo is that "one should first invest one's time before investing one's money."

The meeting will be held on Wed., Oct. 18, at 12 p.m. in 4137 McKeldin Library. For more information, contact Dr. Eric Wish at ewish@cesar.umd.edu.

Madrigals, Minstrels & Magic

Got a hankering for axe-hurling and jousting contests, lusty wenches and retro attire? How about pirates, sword swallows and magic? The Maryland Renaissance Festival is your ticket for a trip back in time to 1537. A number of theater students at the university are among the performers who will tickle your fancy for renaissance revelry and medieval mischief.

Shops on the site offer hand-made leather armor, blown glass and more.

The festival winds up two months of entertainment this weekend. The events take place in "Revel Grove," on Crownsville Road, Crownsville (in Anne Arundel County, just outside Annapolis). For event listings, a photo gallery, directions, parking information and more, visit the Web site at www.rennfest.com/mrf/index.html. Or contact Tony Korol, UM Theatre Dept., 5-6691, 410-867-8523 or tkorol@yahoo.com.

Hollywood History

The Center for Historical Studies will sponsor a lecture by Professor Lary May, University of Minnesota, on "Hollywood and the Making of America." One of the country's leading experts on the history of the movies, May will speak about his new book, "The Big Tomorrow: Hollywood and the Politics of the American Way," published this year by the University of Chicago Press. The book examines movies from Hollywood's golden age, from the early 1930s to the early 1950s,

from Will Rogers to Marilyn Monroe, and explores how the movies of that era both shaped and were shaped by the politics and culture of American society.

The lecture will be held Thursday, Oct. 19 at 4 p.m. in the Deans Conference Room, 1102 Francis Scott Key. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact CHS at historycenter@umail.umd.edu or see www.inform.umd.edu/HIST/HistoryCenter/.

UNIX and U

The Office of Information Technology, which sponsors a number of computer training courses for faculty and staff, this month offers both Introduction to UNIX and SAS for Windows.

The UNIX operating system supports networking and interfacing with the Internet on a variety of computers, from

desktop PCs and Macs to the largest mainframes. The goal of this four-day course is to give participants a basic understanding of UNIX. Participants should have experience with other computer programs. The course will be held Mon.-Thu., Oct. 23-26 from 1-4 p.m.

The focus of the course SAS for Windows is on data access and data management; how to get from raw data to managing and manipulating SAS data effectively. The course will be held Mon., Wed. and Fri., Oct. 23, 25 and 27 from 10 a.m.-12 noon.

All classes are held in 4404 Computer & Space Sciences. Online registration is required for both courses at www.inform.umd.edu/ShortCourses. Questions about course content can be directed to oit-training@umail.umd.edu; registration questions can be directed to OIT Training Services at 301-405-0443.

Write Here, Write Now

Poet Peter Davison, poetry editor for *The Atlantic Monthly*, will read from his works at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 18 in the Special Events Room on the fourth floor of McKeldin Library. A book signing will follow the reading.

The reading is the second of this year's Writers Here & Now series, sponsored by the English department's creative writing program. The series, established in 1969, brings prominent authors to campus to read for an audience drawn from the broad university community.

Davison has described his own evolution into someone "no longer timorous about bringing poetry into a truthful embrace with the most powerful emotions I could feel." During his career as a writer, he has published 11 volumes of poetry, most recently "Breathing Room," which came out this fall. His first book, "The Breaking of the Day," won the Yale Younger Poets Award in 1963. He has served in various editorial capacities at *The Atlantic Monthly* for 40 years, and he has also been an editor at Houghton Mifflin.

Davison has also written a memoir, a book of literary essays and a narrative of literary history. His book "The Fading Smile" chronicled the poetic renaissance in the Boston area during the late 1950s, focusing on poets Robert Frost, W.S. Merwin, Richard Wilbur, Maxine Kumin, Sylvia Plath, Adrienne Rich, L.E. Sissman, Stanley Kunitz and Robert Lowell.

For more information about the series, call 301-405-3820.

In Memoriam

Joseph Weber

Joseph Weber, considered the founder of the field of gravitational wave astronomy, died Sept. 30 in Pittsburgh, where he was receiving treatment for lymphoma. He was 81. He resided in Chevy Chase.

An electrical engineer and professor of physics, Weber's experiments relating to Albert Einstein's theory of relativity focused on the detection of gravitational waves that theoretically permeate the universe.

His experiments at Maryland began in 1958. In 1960 he suggested for the first time that gravitational waves could be detected. His original gravitational radiation experiments involved using as an antenna a massive resonant bar, now known as the Weber-bar. In 1969 he reported he had detected the waves after suspending the bars in a vacuum

chamber at Maryland and at the Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago.

Other scientists who duplicated Weber's works were unable to achieve the same results.

Weber conducted pioneer research on masers and lasers, two of the most widely used tools in science and technology today. His findings contributed to the field of modern optics and underpinned quantum electronics.

"With the death of Professor Joseph Weber, the world lost one of its greatest leaders in fundamental research in electrical engineering and physics," said physics professor John Toll, Maryland chancellor emeritus and president of Washington College. "Joe Weber was, like Enrico Fermi, one of those rare persons able to do outstanding work in both theory

and experiment."

A native of Paterson, N.J., Weber was a 1940 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. He received his doctorate in physics from Catholic University in 1951 and served in the Navy from 1940 to 1948, including tours in the Pacific and Europe during World War II. He was a professor of electrical engineering at Maryland from 1948 to 1961, when he joined the physics department. In 1973, he became a senior research scientist and professor emeritus. He also served as a visiting professor at the University of California, Irvine.

Weber's book, "General Relativity and Gravitational Radiation," was published in 1961. He was a member of the American Astronomical Society, the International Astronomical Union, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and the Italian

Physical Society. He was a fellow of the American Physical Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He held two Guggenheim Fellowships, a National Research Council Fellowship and a Fulbright Scholarship.

His first wife, the former Anita Straus, died in 1971. Survivors include his wife, Virginia Trimble, three sons by his first marriage and six grandchildren.

Kuang-yao Fan

Kuang-yao Fan, who helped build the university's East Asia collection and Chinese-language monograph and serial holdings, died in the Howard County General Hospital hospice on Oct. 9 after a long illness. He was 66. He resided in Clarksville.

Fan worked for the university libraries for 29 years, joining the staff in 1969 as a Japanese language cataloguer after working at the Washington, D.C., public library as a reference librarian and cataloguer. Because he was bilingual—he was born and reared in Taiwan when the island was a Japanese colony—he was called on to catalogue the Chinese collection. At that time, the libraries had begun to acquire more Chinese materials to serve the needs of the campus and metropolitan-area Chinese speakers.

He received his MLS degree from Catholic University and an MA in Asian studies from Seton Hall. He was a member of the Association of Asian Studies and the Chinese Librarians Association. He retired in 1998.

Survivors include his wife, Veronica, a daughter, a son and a granddaughter.